

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: WDFW Wooten Wildlife Area Tucannon River and Floodplain Restoration Projects.
2. Name of applicant: Dave Karl for WDFW
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: 1340 N. 13th Ave Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 527-4138
4. Date checklist prepared: February 10, 2012
5. Agency requesting checklist: WDFW
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Two early action projects for the Tucannon River and Floodplain Management Plan have been developed for construction in summer 2012; Hartsock building removal and floodplain restoration and Tucannon River Large Woody Debris Restoration between Big 4 Lake and Beaver/Watson Lakes. The LWD project is scheduled for the in-water work window July 15 – Aug. 15, 2012. The Hartsock Project is scheduled to be completed during the full work window July 15 – September 30.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. Yes. Washington State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is currently developing a Floodplain Management Plan for the Wooten Wildlife Area. The scope for the plan is attached to this SEPA application, and WDFW is planning on developing another phase of the current SEPA to cover the Wooten Wildlife Area Floodplain Management Plan. The plan will be written in 2012. Additionally, The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), as part of their requirements under ESA, and the current Biological Opinion, has established programmatic funding through the Snake Region Salmon Recovery Board for 1.3 million dollars per year through 2020 to improve stream habitat conditions for Threatened Snake River Spring Chinook Salmon. The Spring Chinook population in the Tucannon River Basin is the only Spring Chinook population in the Lower Snake River. The

Washington State Wooten Wildlife Area is located in the heart of Spring Chinook spawning and rearing habitat on the Tucannon River. WDFW is starting a focused restoration effort and a Floodplain Management Plan on the Wooten Wildlife Area to work with local partners developing and implementing restoration of the Tucannon River and its' floodplain.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, 2006; Draft Wooten Wildlife Area Floodplain Management Plan, 2012; Tucannon River Habitat Assessment and Conceptual Restoration Plan, Anchor QEA, 2011; WT Wooten Wildlife Area Geomorphic Assessment, NRCS, 2004;

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. No

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. The list of permits for each project may be different, but generally permits required to implement stream restoration projects in a river with three listed salmonid species requires ESA consultation, we use the BPA HIP Programmatic or the WA. State Programmatic through USACE when possible, Shorelines permit Columbia or Garfield County, Washington State Hydraulic Project Approval Permit (HPA), WDOE Water Quality Certification, USACE 404 permit, Dept. of Natural Resources approval, and a cultural survey, report, and approval through WA SHPO and local Native American Tribes. This set of approvals and permits will be done for each project done under this SEPA. The Hartsock Building removal and Floodplain Restoration Project and the Tucannon LWD Restoration Project have both completed the Cultural Resource Surveys and are scheduled to have Cultural Reports by the end of April. The JARPA, Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application that includes all of the State Permits and US Army Corps 404 Permit is completed and waiting for the SEPA to be complete. Environmental compliance permits and Cultural resource permits are scheduled to be completed by May 20th, 2012.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) The proposal is for two early action restoration projects and to introduce the concept of a Floodplain Management Plan for the Wooten W.A. The projects are The Quonset Hut/Bunkhouse Removal and Floodplain Restoration Project and The Tucannon LWD Restoration Project. The Quonset Hut/Bunkhouse Removal is the demolition and removal of two old buildings located in the Tucannon River floodplain. After removing the buildings the project site will be restored to native grasses and woody vegetation (trees and shrubs) (project description attached). The LWD restoration is a continuation of restoration efforts that began following the School Fire (2005). The fire burned large reaches of riparian and the Tucannon River in those reaches has been altered over the past 100 years, resulting in a river channel that has been simplified, confined, and disconnected from its' floodplain. It has been determined that restoring Large Wood structure to the channel will promote stream habitat complexity and floodplain connectivity, with the intention of improving conditions for riparian regeneration. The LWD material is being donated by the USFS Umatilla National Forest and the project will incorporate helicopter placement techniques (project description attached).

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. The William T. Wooten Wildlife Area is approximately 16,000 acres and is managed as one unit. It is located in Columbia and Garfield counties, 25 miles east of Dayton and 14 miles south of Pomeroy. About 17 miles of the Tucannon River are located within the boundaries. Elevations range from 4,100 feet on Hopkins Ridge, down to 1,800 feet on the lowest section of the Tucannon River.

Legal Description: Hartsock Building Removal and Floodplain Restoration, T10, R 41, Sect. 4, NW ¼ Sect. The project site Latitude and Longitude is N 46.3799° W 117.6944°.

Legal Description: LWD Restoration River Miles 42 to 44, T9, R41, Sections 3, 10, and 15. Project site is 2 mile river reach between RM 42 and RM 44, the entire reach is being treated. RM 42 lat/long N 46.2803° W 117.6544°, RM 44 lat/long N 46.2627° W 117.6644°

Project locations maps attached.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? The steepest slope that will be involved in the proposal is 2-3%.
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland. River Cobble, gravel, soil and sediment, there is no prime farmland on the project sites.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. There are some areas that indicate unstable soils, they are localized, and being considered for stabilization as part of the proposal. The major area identified is located within the first LWD project that is funded for construction in summer 2012. This area is unstable because the river has been diked against a hillside that has become an area of mass wasting over time. The 2012 LWD Restoration Project includes removal of the dike and addition of LWD structure along the toe of the hillside. This project will restore stability to that site.
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. No filling is proposed, however, cobble push-up dikes and levees associated with the river have been assessed for removal. In all cases removal will involve grading back to local floodplain grade. The materials in the dikes are cobbles pushed up from the stream and floodplain, that material would be leveled to the existing surrounding elevations.
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. Yes, erosion can occur as a result of construction of some of the proposed projects, but we do not anticipate erosion beyond what occurs in a naturally functioning river system. Large Wood debris Jams are critical for sediment management in a natural stream system, rivers with natural LWD loading manage 50-80% of the natural erosion in a river system. LWD does this by creating hydraulic breaks in the stream flow that deposit and hold sediments upstream and downstream from the wood structures. For the Floodplain Restoration project at Hartsock, stream restoration work done in 1998 has restored floodplain connectivity and started regeneration of riparian "Cottonwood Gallery". Rivers with floodplain connection deposit naturally eroding sediments onto the floodplain during adequate stream flow events. Both projects are designed to encourage and promote natural function for the river and floodplain, and give the river the space and structure needed to do the heavy lifting over time.
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? Most of the projects are designed to remove buildings and other impervious surfaces from the floodplain; therefore there will be a reduction in the percent of impervious surface area. In some cases impervious surfaces may be moved from the floodplain to a different location. For example, if a campground is removed from the floodplain to an area outside the floodplain, the amount of impervious surface would be relocated resulting in between 0-5% increase in impervious surface. The projects constructed under this SEPA will not result in increased impervious surface, the Hartsock Project will reduce impervious surfaces on the natural floodplain.
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: The Tucannon River is moderately to highly confined and incised within the Wooten W.A. boundaries, due to impacts from straightening the stream channel, logging, building and fortifying roads and bridges, and stream "cleanup" after flood events. Many of those activities have been restricted and the restoration efforts are designed to improve or reverse some of the impacts caused by past land use activities, therefore restoration of stream function and connection with the floodplain will be an improvement resulting in a reduction in erosion caused by human activities. Restoration of these key functions will improve riparian habitat, increase linkages with river and floodplain habitat, and add complexity to stream and floodplain interactions, all of which reduce harmful erosion within the river basin.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. Most emissions would be from equipment utilized for construction of the restoration projects. Equipment will

include Helicopters, excavators, dump trucks, front end loaders, dozers, etc. Approximate quantities of equipment emissions unknown.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **NO**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: **NONE**

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **Yes**, The Mainstem River is the Tucannon River; the major tributaries in the immediate vicinity of the LWD project is Waterman Canyon Creek and the Hartsock project, a small spring (Hartsock Spring Creek) that feed back into the Tucannon R. Additionally, there are 8 manmade lakes (impoundments) found on the Wooten Wildlife Area, those in the immediate vicinity of the LWD project are Beaver Lake, Watson Lake, and Big Four Lake. There is also a small abandoned farm pond, the pond is now part of the spring creek, on the Northern edge of the Hartsock Project
- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **Yes**, both of the projects identified will require some work in and adjacent to the described waters. The projects are generally designed to restore complex stream habitat and floodplain connection to improve natural river function. The Hartsock Project has very little work in the described waters, the culvert and access road to the buildings will be removed. The Culvert is undersized and currently not functioning as designed. The project will remove the culvert; restore natural bank slope, and plant native grass, shrubs, and trees. The LWD Restoration is almost entirely in channel, but 95% of the project will be whole trees, placed unanchored by helicopter. The helicopter technique is being used to limit impacts to the riparian and stream habitat caused by convention log jam construction using heavy equipment. 4 Structures, 2 engineered log jams, and 2 constructed "Floodplain Debris Catchers" (FDC) will be constructed at the downstream end of the project reach. These structures are designed to regulate large wood from moving out of the project reach. The area that the structures will be built are located in a natural narrow section of the valley, the belief is that this area would have naturally had large numbers of debris jams. The engineer/constructed structures would encourage more debris jams locally and increase the "regulatory" effect.
- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. **None identified for this application.**
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **NO**
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **Yes**, as previously stated, the projects will be done to improve floodplain function; therefore the projects will involve working in the 100 year floodplain. Projects will include removing artificial structures (buildings, parking lots, etc.) from the 100 year floodplain and adding large wood structure to the river to encourage better floodplain function.
- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **NO**

b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. The project is not designed to impact groundwater in an artificial way, however, improved floodplain function and river habitat complexity will result in improved groundwater interchange. Stream channel complexity increases hyporheic exchange and increases in surface water elevations caused by aggraded channel plan form and reconnecting secondary channels will improve local aquifer recharge.
- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. NONE

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. NONE
- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. NO

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: All proposed projects will improve existing conditions for surface, ground, and runoff water interactions with the Tucannon River and its tributaries within the boundaries of the Wooten Wildlife Area.

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? There may be some removal of vegetation caused by construction of the proposed projects, but not intentional removal of any native vegetation. All impacted areas have vegetation restored with native grass, shrubs, and trees. One of the goals of the proposal is to improve and increase riparian habitat within the Wooten W.A. Project areas will be actively restored for riparian and floodplain vegetation. The net result of the proposal will be an increase in riparian vegetation and function.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. NONE

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: As stated above, all sites involved with this proposal will be enhanced with native grass, shrubs, and trees.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. Snake River Steelhead, Snake River Spring Chinook, Bull Trout.
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. The river is a migration route for Salmon, Steelhead, Bull Trout, Whitefish, and Bridge Lip Suckers, historically Pacific Lamprey would have migrated in this reach, but Pacific Lamprey have not been observed in the Tucannon R. for more than 25 years.
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: The proposal is designed to improve river and floodplain function. This restoration will improve aquatic and terrestrial habitats for fish and wildlife within the Tucannon River Floodplain by increasing habitat complexity and edge habitat and improving riparian conditions along the river. The proposal is completely directed at improving, preserving, and enhancing habitat for fish and wildlife in the Tucannon River Basin.

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. NONE
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. NO
- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: NONE

7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. NO

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. NONE

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: NONE

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
NONE

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. We anticipate short-term noise from equipment used for construction (Helicopter, excavator, dozer). Noise would be, most often, work days and hours Monday – Friday 8:00AM to 5:00PM and occasionally on weekends during the same times.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: NONE

8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Recreation; camping, fishing, hunting.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. Yes, some of the area within the proposed sites was used for agriculture.
- c. Describe any structures on the site. There are a variety of structures located on the Hartsock Project site, a Quonset hut and old bunkhouse that have will be removed as part of the floodplain restoration at that site
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? Yes, an early action project was developed to remove the Quonset Hut (an old storage building) and a bunk house. Both of the structures are old and run down and are located in the floodplain where the Tucannon River is starting to move. The project is to remove the buildings and restore the site to native grasses and shrubs/trees. The attached project description includes a picture of the buildings during 2010 spring event (2-3 year event). The river is moving towards the buildings and will eventually overtake them.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? Recreational
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? The Wooten Wildlife Area Floodplain Management Plan is currently being written. As soon as the draft is complete, an environmental checklist will be completed and SEPA determination. The plan is scheduled to be written in 2012.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? N/A
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify. Not to my knowledge, the project sites are located on a State Wildlife Area and the purpose of the proposals are to improve environmental conditions within the Wildlife Area.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? 8-10
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? None
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: None, the project will not displace anyone.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: Consulting with Columbia and Garfield Counties about county permits and to coordinate proposed projects under this SEPA with the affected county or counties.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. NONE
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. NONE
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: NONE

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? N/A

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? NONE

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: NONE

11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? N/A projects would be constructed only during daylight hours.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? NO

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? NONE

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: NONE

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? The site is a State Wildlife Area and therefore has many recreational opportunities including hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, hunting, wildlife viewing, and other related outdoor activities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. No, the projects will increase recreational opportunities.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: Work with the Citizens Advisory Group for the Wooten W.A. and local Sports Clubs, like Richland Rod and Gun Club.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. NO

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. The Wildlife Area is located on the Tucannon River that was used by the Native American Tribes prior to European settlers. All projects proposed for implementation on a State Wildlife Area requires cultural resource compliance. A Cultural Resource Survey has been conducted for both the LWD Restoration Project and the Hartsock Building Removal and Floodplain Restoration. We are waiting for the final report which is scheduled to be completed in April, 2012.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: For each project an suitable cultural and historic review will be completed and approved by WA SHPO and the Umatilla and Nez Perce Tribes.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. The main road serving the site is the Tucannon River Rd. It is a U.S. Forest Service road through the Wildlife Area.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? No, 50 miles.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? NONE, NONE

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **No**
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. The LWD restoration projects will utilize air transport by using a helicopter to place large trees with root-balls into the river and adjacent floodplain. A typical project would treat a 1-4 mile reach of river, using a helicopter to fly trees from the forested areas in the adjacent mountains into the river and floodplain. The goal of this type of project is to add stream length, sinuosity, and improved linkages between the river, riparian habitats, and the floodplain.
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. A typical project using helicopters for LWD Restoration would generate between 50-70 trips per day for roughly 1 week. The projects will be done during the work window and therefore between July 15 and Sept 30. Holidays and weekends would be avoided because that is when the most recreational activity occurs on the Wildlife Area.
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: Implement the project during low recreational use times, provide road flaggers to manage traffic, choose areas with minimal impacts to transportation, for example, fly trees from mountains to stream that do not cross roads or cross the fewest roads as possible. Post project timing ahead of time, so the public is aware of potential delays.

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. **NO**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. **NONE**

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. **None**

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: *David Karl*

Date Submitted: February 24,2012

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise? N/A

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: N/A

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life? The projects will likely improve habitat quality and restore natural processes to the Wooten W.A., net benefit for fish and wildlife.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are: Improve floodplain function and linkages between riverine and riparian habitats.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? N/A

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: N/A

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands? The proposed projects are designed to improve floodplain conditions and habitat within the State Wildlife Area. The Tucannon River is home to 3 ESA listed Salmonids: Bull Trout, Snake River Steelhead, and Snake River Chinook.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: The projects will be done using the Best Management Protocols for habitat restoration. Impacted areas will be reseeded to native grasses and native shrubs and trees planted when appropriate. Sediment from construction and potential erosion will be secured using methods to control sedimentation or dust caused by construction of a project. Heavy Equipment will be clean and free from leaks of any petroleum based or caustic fluids. A designated fueling area will be established for all projects, with fire and spill kits available on site. Stream banks will be protected from damage and stream crossings will be minimized. All work will be done during the appropriate in-water work window. Project design will consider what species of fish and animals may be encountered and develop a work plan to minimize impacts to those species. The major goal of all of the projects is to provide restoration activities that provide benefit to natural functions and therefore are developed with minimizing impacts to habitat as a central goal.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans? The purpose of the plan is to improve conditions within the river floodplain, and will not encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: The proposed projects are directed at reducing land use and shoreline impacts.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities? N/A

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: N/A

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. The proposal is part of a larger collaboration and partnership with all stakeholders to improve protection of the environment. Partners: USFS, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, Umatilla Tribe, Nez Perce Tribe, Tri-State Steelheaders (RFEG), Columbia County Conservation District, and local landowners (citizens) in the Tucannon Valley.